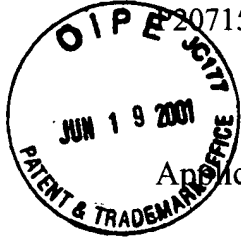


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Jan Kang WU et al.

Serial No. : 09/786,368 (National Stage of PCT/SG98/00072)

Filed : March 15, 2001

For : LINEAR OBJECT VECTORIZATION IN COLOUR/GRAYSCALE IMAGES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Applicants submit herewith a copy of an International Search Report dated July 21, 1999, with respect to International Application No. PCT/SG 98 00072, in which the Austrian Patent Examiner cited the following document:

U.S. Patent No. 5,465,308, to HUTCHESON et al., issued November 7, 1995 was cited as an "A" category document (a document that defines the general state of the art, but which is not considered to be of particular relevance) with respect to claims 1-26 of the corresponding International application. The Examiner indicated the abstract and Figure 1 as being relevant.

Applicants also call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent No. 5,691,827, to KAMEI et al., issued November 25, 1997;

U.S. Patent No. 5,345,547, to ANEZAKI et al., issued September 6, 1994;

U.S. Patent No. 5,631,982, to INSELBERG et al., issued May 20, 1997;

The three above-noted patent documents are cited at pages 2-3 of the specification.

The following documents will be forwarded as soon as possible to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, upon receipt by Applicants' representatives.

"Digital Image Processing" by William K. PRATT; published 1978. This document is cited at page 9 of the specification.;

"Neural Networks and Simulations Networks" by J. K. WU, published 1994, pages 313-316. This document is cited at page 11 of the specification.;

"Multidimensional Clustering Algorithm" by F. MURTAGH, published 1995. This document is cited at page 16 of the specification.;

"Digital Picture Processing" by A. ROSENFELD, published 1982. This document is cited at page 19 of the specification.; and

"Computer Graphics, Principles and Practice" by Dr. James D. FOLEY, published 1995. This document is cited at page 21 of the specification.

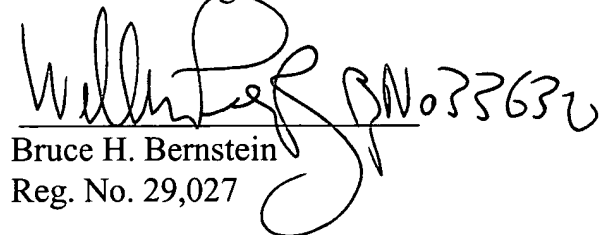
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above

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materials. Copies of the above-noted Patent documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. The other documents cited herein will be forwarded as soon as possible. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Kang WU et al.


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June 14, 2001
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